

**REMARKS**

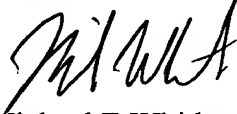
The undersigned notes with appreciation that claims 2-7 and 9-17 have been identified as being drawn to allowable subject matter.

By this amendment claims 1 and 8 have been canceled. Claim 2 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 1. Claims 9 and 10 have been amended to incorporate the features of claims 1 and 8. Claims 13 and 16 have been amended to incorporate the features of claim 1. The application now includes claims 2-7 and 9-17, each of which should now be in *prima facie* condition for allowance.

Please charge attorney's deposit account 50-0510 (IBM Yorktown) for the fees for two additional independent claims.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims, as amended, is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E Whitham  
Reg. No. 32,635

Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.  
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340  
Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400  
Fax. (703) 787-7557